dumped in the Indian market after three months of lifting Quantitative Restrictions;

(b) if so, whether indigenous industries are being affected due to the same; and

(c) if so, the steps Government are proposing to take?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) to (c) The Anti-Dumping investigations have been initiated against import of four products *viz.* Biaxally Oriented Poly Propylene Film (BOPP Film), Polyester Staple Fibre, Vitamin AB^2D^3K and Acrylic Yarn since 1.4.2001 on the basis of fully documented petitions filed by the domestic industry with sufficient evidence of dumping, injury and casual link between the two, in accordance with our National Law as enshrined in Section 9A, 9B & 9C of the Customs Tariff Act, 1975 as amended in 1995. So far as China is concerned, Anti-Dumping investigation has been initiated only against one product namely BOPP Film, out of those four products mentioned.

Import of natural rubber

196. SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN:
SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the tyre manufacturers have decided to import 30,000 tonnes of natural rubber; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard and what would be its impact on the prices of indigenous natural rubber?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) and (b) There has been a Press Report that the tyre companies are planning to import 30,000 MT of Natural Rubber. In the Quantitative Restrictions free regime, anybody can import natural rubber after paying the normal applicable duties.

At the current market rates, import of Natural Rubber will be costlier and as such not much import is anticipated. Currently import

of small quantity of Natural Rubber is not expected to influence the domestic prices adversely.

Trade agreements with Latin American countries

197. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has already signed or is negotiating trade agreements with some Latin American Coutries;

(b) if so, the names of Latin American countries with whom these agreements have been concluded; and

(c) the main terms of the agreements?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. India has signed the following trade agreements with Latin American Countries:—

S.NO.	Country	Date on which the trade agreement was signed
1.	Cuba	9th July 1979
2.	Guatemala	23rd April 1981
3.	Trinidad & Tobago	24th January 1997
4.	Argentina	28th July 1981
5.	Brazil	3rd February 1968
6.	Peru	4th November 1971
7.	Colombia	14th July 1970

These agreements aim at expanding bilateral trade.